



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Eastern District of Wisconsin*

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NEWS SUMMARY:

United States Attorney Steven M. Biskupic announced today that a Grand Jury in the Eastern District of Wisconsin returned a one-count indictment charging Michael P. Spence (DOB: 8/4/70) and Timothy W. Spence (DOB: 4/16/63) a/k/a James Schoenecker with a conspiracy to distribute more than 100 kilograms of marijuana.

In a criminal complaint filed earlier this year, Timothy Spence and Michael Spence are alleged to have been involved in the transportation of marijuana which had been smuggled into the United States from El Paso or McAllen, Texas to West Bend Wisconsin.

On July 22, 2003, alleged co-conspirators Daniel T. Storm (a/k/a Daniel Slaughter) and William A. Jarvis were charged in a separate indictment. Both are currently in custody.

The criminal complaint alleges that Timothy Spence and Daniel Storm met while serving time in a federal prison as a result of federal drug convictions. The conspirators hired pilots to fly chartered and leased airplanes to make the trips from Wisconsin to Texas. Marijuana was hidden in wheeled suitcases or large boxes and transported to Wisconsin in the planes.

Based on this charge, Timothy Spence faces up to life imprisonment and fines totaling \$4 million. Michael Spence faces up to 40 years imprisonment and \$2 million in fines

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Service; the Drug Enforcement Administration; and the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation Division. The case has been assigned to Assistant United States Attorneys Penelope C. Fleming and Carol L. Kraft.

The public is cautioned that an indictment is merely the formal method of returning charges against an individual and does not constitute inference of his guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until such time, if ever, that the government established his guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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